(v) Periodical inspections of the Sections are carried out in order to ensuring compliance with the Official Language Rules.

Musk Trade

1135. SHRI O. J. JOSEPH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Society of Naturalists has sought the Prime Minister's intervention in stopping the musk trade; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take on the said request?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) and (b) Trade in Musk within the country is prohibited and its export is not allowed under the export policy. The Indian Society of Naturalists had written to the Prime Minister about the Japanese reservation against the listing of Musk deer in the Appendices to the Convention on International Trade in endangered species of fauna and flora (CITES), which in effect means strict regulation of International Trade in Musk. The reservation entered by Japan endangers further the status of the species and hence, the matter has been raised through the diplomatic channels, with the Government of Japan.

Failure of Thermal Power Stations to take Pollution Control measures

1136. DR. BAPU KALDATE:

DR. SHANTI G. PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Pollution Control Board in its survey has found out that several thermal power stations have failed to take any pollution control measures;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a majority of them have not installed electro-static precipitators;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps have been taken to reduce pollution hazards effectively?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH): (a) to (c) There are 53 Thermal Power Plants consisting of 218 units in the country. Thermal Power Stations of older designs have poorer pollution control devices since at that time, electrostatic precipitators (ESPs) of requisite efficiency were not being manufactured. Such power plants are provided with less efficient pollution control equipment. Department of Power/ Central Electricity Authority have identified 18 units which will be taken up for modernisation in the 7th plan, provided funds are available. Some power already initiated action for modernisation/augmentation of pollution control equipment. However, the new power plants which have been installed recently are provided with high efficiency ESPs and are meeting the emission standards.

(d) The power plants are being asked to fully meet the Central Boards' emission standards. Proposals for new power plants sent by Central Electricity Authority are examined by the Department of Environment from environmental angle. While giving concurrence to new projects, project authorities are given environmental advice such as installation of high efficienty electro-static precipitators, providing proper treatment facilities for liquid effluents etc. Precautionary measures to be adopted for proper disposal of fly-ash are also suggested. Besides, the power plants are required to get clearance from State/ Central Pollution Control Board.

Setting up of Electronics Industry in Bihar

1137. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar has sent proposals for setting up of electronics industry in that State;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Bihar is lagging behind in the development of electronics industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) to (c) Yes,Sir. 11 applications have been received from Government of Bihar Undertakings for the manufacture of various electronic items. Out of these 11, in 9 cases Letters of Intent have been issued and 2 applications have been rejected. 1 Letter of Intent has been converted into an Industrial Licence. There is need to accelerate the development of Electronics in Bihar.

Casual labourers engaged in the Ministry of Home Affairs and its attached/subordinate offices

1138.8 8SHRI RAH PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casual labourers in his Ministry and its subordinate/attached offices who have been made regular during the last three years (office-wise and year-wise);

(b) the number of casual workers who have been working for more than two years and have not been made regular indicating the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have formulated any time-bound programme for making them regular; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) As regularisation of sasual labour is dependent on the availability of vacancies it is not possible to have a time bound programme for this purposes.

Offices of the Ministry of Home Affairs housed in the rented buildings

1139. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various offices under his Ministry/Department/Subordinate|attached offices are housed in the rented buildings in Delhi and outside Delhi, if so, since when;

(b) the names of the offices and the monthly rent of each building occupied by these offices along with the dates of their-occupation;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is not in a position to shift these offices from the rented buildings to Government buildings, if so what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what steps have been taken so far to shift these offices from the rented buildings to Government buildings to lessen the burden on the exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Regularisation of casual labourers in the Ministry of External Affairs

1140. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of casual labourers in her Ministry and its offices/departments/subordinates offices/attached offices who have been made regular during the last three years (office-wise and year-wise);

(b) the number of casual workers who have been working for more than two years and are yet to be regularized; and